



P.O. Box 212 • Olney, Maryland • 20830  
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DRAFT  
**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
July 10, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Billy Becker called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. He asked for a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting and for the minutes from the June 12, 2018 meeting. The motion to approve was made and seconded. The minutes and the agenda were approved by acclamation. GOCA representatives, alternates, invited guests and members of the public introduced themselves.

**PLANS FOR THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

GOCA will have a table at National Night Out which will be held August 7, 2018 at the Fairhill shopping center. Billy Becker requested the GOCA representatives to attend the event and to sit at the table. Various ideas were discussed for something to get people to stop at the GOCA table – drink holders with GOCA printed on them, information about the McDonald's renovations, and popcorn in little bags with GOCA printed on them. The decision was made to print Olney and GOCA printed on oval magnets. The Georgia font will be used to match the font on the new water tower. Judi Hruz from the Greater Olney News graciously offered to have the art editor do the artwork in an EPS file.

**REPORT ON THE BOARD OF APPEALS SESSION RE: MCDONALD'S**

Lydia Rappolt, President of OTCAC, mentioned that Jim Smith and GOCA President Billy Becker attended the Board of Appeals hearing on June 26. The Olney Town Center Advisory Committee reviewed the design and made the following comments:

- The proposed redesign is not compliant with local traditions and the Master Plan design guidelines.
- Efficiency will be increased.
- Landscaping will not be improved.

- Parking will be decreased on the North side of the building.

OTCAC requested two pedestrian walkways and requested a review of the proposed design to make it in compliance with OTCAC's vision for Olney.

Lydia Rappolt reported that crosswalks and pedestrian signs were added. The entranceway was also changed. McDonald's did a traffic and pedestrian count. Dealing with changing the entrance to High Street was more than they wanted to handle at this time. She stated that the Board of Appeals was very appreciative of GOCA's and OTCAC's efforts.

## **THE RADIO TOWER AT THE INTERSECTION OF GEORGIA AVENUE AND THE ICC**

Jeff Weiler, The Preserve at Small's Nursery HOA President, discussed SHA's proposal to build a 349 foot tower with strobe lighting at the intersection of Georgia Avenue and the ICC. The proposed tower, which will operate 24 hours a day, will serve as an emergency broadcast system for state emergency personnel. It would be a huge eyesore coming into Olney and would be the tallest such tower proposed in Maryland. No HOAs or GOCA were notified of the public hearing scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup>. Other alternative locations were not looked at. Jeff Weiler has discussed this item with GOCA Officers and with Senator Manno's office. GOCA Officers drafted a letter to Senators Manno and Zucker requesting their assistance in delaying the staff report that is due to be submitted on July 19<sup>th</sup> and postponing the public hearing on July 26<sup>th</sup>. He is willing to be the lead for GOCA. He also would like an article to be written in the Greater Olney News about this proposal to get the word out. He stated that the tower is so tall so that the signal can reach into other counties. A suggestion was made to build the tower in Brighton Dam so it will not impede on housing values in Olney. Joshua Penn at Park & Planning is in favor of helping us. The most important thing to do is to stop the staff report from being submitted on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

A resolution was proposed to send the draft letter to Senators Manno and Zucker and to all representative for Districts 14 and 19. The resolution was approved unanimously.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following announcements were made.

The Capitol One Bank at 17831 Georgia Avenue is closing on September 21, 2018.

Giant Foods is relocating to the Shoppers location in 2019. The new location is a bigger space than the current location.

The owners of Giant Foods intend to keep the property and lease it to someone else. It is the corporate

property owner's decision on how the property will be used. GOCA and OTCAC will be vigilant on this.

The August meeting will be a social event. Billy Becker tried to contact Brookeville Beer Farm, but has had difficulty reaching them. They do not take reservations so we will not have a private area. Also we will not know what food truck will be there on the night of the social event. He has also contacted the Olney Winery which is available on Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. They will waive the \$25 reservation fee for the back section of the room. They will charge \$15 per head. They will supply the wine. We can bring in our own food. It was suggested that we also look at Norbeck Country Club since they recently completed renovations.

Matt Quinn discussed the plans for a candidates' forum for October for the county candidates for the November general election. It will provide an opportunity for Olney residents to interact with the candidates.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Dave Miller gave an update on the driveway culvert topic. He is continuing to push the county to change the practice where the property owners are responsible for replacing the driveway culverts. This has a large financial impact on individual homeowners in older neighborhoods. It also is very time consuming. He is working with Greg Intoccia on the legal aspect.

Emmet Tydings gave an update on the Transportation Committee. He stated that great progress has been made on the Bowie Mill Bikeway. It is approaching the 35% planning phase. Then it will move forward in terms of funding. It will be an off-road separated bike path which will be safe for all levels of riding. Extra funding may be possible because it will provide access to the Shady Grove Metro. He stated that he is looking for someone else to take over as Chair of the Transportation Committee.

Judi Hruz from the Greater Olney News stated that she has heard many positive comments from Olney residents regarding the GOCA event in April for the candidates. She suggested that the October candidates' forum be held early in the month so it can be publicized in the Greater Olney News prior to the election.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, a motion was submitted to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Stacy Levine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

In attendance:

**GOCA Officers**

Billy Becker, President – Ashley Hollow; Matt Quinn, Executive Vice President – Cherrywood, David Miller, 1st Vice President – Norbeck Meadows; Stacy Levine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - The Reserve at Fair Hill; Katie Harris, Corresponding Secretary, Greg Intoccia, Immediate Past President – Ashley Hollow

**GOCA Representatives and Alternates**

John Blachere (Ashley Hollow), Kathleen Salanik (Brookeville Knolls), Lydia Rappolt (Camelback Village), Carol Sullivan (Cherrywood), Mary Lou Causway (Christie Estates), Jackie Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Helene Rosenheim (Highlands of Olney), Matthew Bernhard (Norbeck Grove), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Matt Zaborsky (Norbeck Meadows), Ravin Howell (Oatland Farm), Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Lorie Nelson (Olney Oaks), Jeff Weiler (Preserve at Small's Nursery), Hilary Rogers (Victoria Springs), Ruth Laugner (Williamsburg Village).

**Public**

Barbara Falcigno (Olney Oaks), Isabelle Houysoet (Preserve at Small's Nursery)